

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/541,982

Applicant(s)

VAN CASTEREN, DOLF
HENRICUS JOZEF

Examiner

Thuy V. Tran

Art Unit

2821

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 07/11/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 04/07/2006
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


THUY V. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

This is a response to the Applicant's filing on 07/11/2005. In virtue of this filing, claims 1-12 are currently presented in the instant application.

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

This Examiner's Amendment is made (i) to update the related continuing data, (ii) to change the title to be descriptive, and (iii) to correct the typographical errors in claims 1, 5, and 11. It is believed that such changes/corrections do not affect or change the scope of the claimed invention, and therefore, a telephone contact with the Applicant's Representative was not made.

This Examiner's Amendment includes:

- For the title:

Change the original title to --CIRCUIT ARRANGEMENT WITH A SEPARATE
RESONANT IGNITER FOR A HIGH-PRESSURE DISCHARGE LAMP--;

- For the specification:

Page 1, between the title and the first line, insert:

--This Application is a National Phase Application under 35 U.S.C. 371 claiming the
benefit of PCT/IB03/05824 filed on 12/05/2003, which has priority based on EPO
Application No. 03075109.3 filed on 01/14/2003.--;

- For the claims:

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Claim 1, line 9, change “element” to --elements--;

Claim 5, line 2, change “element” to --elements--; and

Claim 11, line 2, delete “preferably”.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-12 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

3. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance:

Prior art fails to disclose or fairly suggest a circuit arrangement for operating a high pressure discharge lamp equipped with a DC-AC converter comprising a second inductive element coupled in series with the resonant capacitive element, a third switching element coupled between a terminal of the second inductive element and one of the input terminals, and a second control circuit coupled to a control electrode of the third switching element for rendering the third switching element alternately conductive and non-conductive with frequency f and thereby generating an AC ignition voltage over the resonant capacitive element, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as called for in independent claim 1 (claims 2-11 are allowed since they are dependent on claim 1).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

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Citation of relevant prior art

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Prior art Rast et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,426,597 B2) discloses a circuit arrangement for operating gas discharge lamps;

Prior art Okude et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,962,981) discloses a discharge lamp lighting device;

Prior art Huber et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,742,132) discloses a method and system for operating a discharge lamp; and

Prior art Leyten (U.S. Patent No. 5,319,286) discloses an ignition scheme for a high-intensity discharge ballast.

Drawings

5. The drawings submitted on 07/11/2005 are accepted.

Information Disclosure Statement

6. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 04/07/2006 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Inquiry

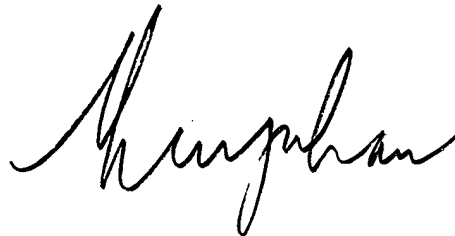
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy V. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-1828. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00 AM -4:00 PM).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy P. Callahan can be reached on (571) 272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

09/16/2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thuy V. Tran', is written in a cursive style.

THUY V. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER